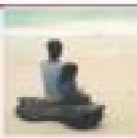
BUSINESS / B1
SM group offers P92/share for EPCIBank

WORLD / A22
Israel probes conduct of Lebanon war

NEWS / A18
Erap documentary rated 'X' by MTRCB review committee

MOTORING / B10
The 'highs' and 'lows' of budget cars

LIFESTYLE / C1
Sand, surf & storm: 2bU!'s rainy Boracay guide



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, August 30, 2006 ★★ 9 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 263 P18

Tanker captain admits work papers expired

By Lalis B. Salaverria and Armand N. Nocum

THE CAPTAIN OF THE MT SOLAR 1, which sank on Aug. 11 in Guimaras Strait with 2 million liters of bunker fuel oil on board, yesterday acknowledged that his certificates had expired and that he had no special training to handle oil tankers.

But Norberto Aguro said the big oil companies had not raised questions about his papers.

"Caltex, Petron and Shell evaluated my papers and they did not say anything. Once they saw the chemical tanker, there were no questions about my papers," Aguro told the Special Board of Marine Inquiry (SBMI).

The SBMI earlier found that Aguro's certificates in general tanker familiarization and advance training on chemical tanker operations had expired in 2002.

Aguro said that he had been the captain

TANKER/A8

Palace asks hospitals to consider '06 nurses

By Christian O. Avendaño, Christian V. Esguerra and Jerome Aning

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY APPEALED TO hospitals whose officials had decided not to hire those who passed the controversial 2006 nursing board exams to reconsider their decision.

"For we believe that those who passed this board exam fairly should not suffer from the

PALACE/A6

Militant solon hits NPA for extortion



SAY WHEN. President Macapagal-Arroyo waits for her cue from director Lupita Aquino-Kashiwahara (background) during Monday night's taping of a television interview held on the sandy beaches of Costa Aguada Resort on Inampulugan Island, Guimaras.

Guimaras folk evacuated from worst-hit areas

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas
and Christian O. Avendaño

NUEVA VALENCIA, GUIMARAS—PROVINCIAL officials have started to move out over 150 families living in two coastal villages worst-hit by the oil spill because of health risks.

Gov. JC Rahman Nava and Mayor Diosdado Gonzaga met with the residents and barangay officials yesterday and convinced them to leave their homes which were within the 100-meter risk zone from the shoreline as recommended

GUIMARAS/A18



LAST OF THE 'PAWIKAN'? A sea turtle, among the thousands of sea creatures affected by the bunker oil spill, was sighted swimming near the shores of Guimaras.

Etta: Firm punished for not paying P30-M 'tax'

By Michael Lim Ubac

A WELL-KNOWN LEFTIST leader has accused the communist New People's Army of "downright gangsterism" after NPA rebels torched a truck belonging to an export company that refused to pay P30 million in revolutionary taxes.

The Aug. 15 attack against the Bacolod City-based AlterTrade Corp. showed "the darker side of the revolutionary forces under the New People's Army of the Communist Party," militant lawmaker Etta Rosales said in a privilege speech in Congress on Monday night.

AlterTrade is managed by former NPA members who had gone into the business of exporting muscovado sugar and bananas.

"Its attempt at extorting money from reputable organizations, whose aim is to help the poor, is downright gangsterism and hypocritical," said Rosales, a member of the Akbayan party-list group.

Akbayan belongs to one of the factions of the country's deeply divided Left. On one side of the spectrum is the Communist Party of the Philippines that was founded by exiled leader Jose Ma. Sison.

The military has claimed the extortion of so-called revolutionary taxes from business firms and private individuals, including electoral candidates, is a major source of funds for the communist underground, enabling the NPA to sustain its operations around the country.

The military estimated the NPA collected P200 million annually in revolutionary taxes.

The Inquirer sent an e-mail to the Communist Party's information bureau

MILITANT/A6

GMA execs snub probe of House allies

By Michael Lim Ubac

AS THE MELO COMMISSION BUCKLED down to work, a congressional committee began yesterday its own inquiry into judicial summary executions, but top defense and military officials snubbed the hearing.

Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan and National Bureau of Investigation Director Nestor Mantaring stayed away from the hearing called by the House human rights committee.

They invoked Memorandum Circular No. 108 that set guidelines for appearances in congressional hearings under Executive Order No. 464.

Stung by the nonappearance, the committee adopted a strongly worded resolution condemning what they regarded as an act of disrespect and expressing "deep disappointment and concern."

Manila Rep. Benjamin Asilo, committee chair, said the four officials would be called again on Sept. 12. "Otherwise, we will be constrained to issue a subpoena for the third hearing so that they will be forced to appear before this committee. We don't want the government to insult this committee," said Asilo.

GMA EXECS/A6



Melo giving up 'sweet life' for 'last hurrah'

By Armand N. Nocum

FORMER SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE Justice Jose Melo has vowed to do right by his role as head of the commission investigating the killing of journalists and militant leaders, saying this was his "last hurrah" capping his 40 years in public service.

Melo, 74, said he was initially not that enthu-

MELO/A6

GK volunteers: Best for the least

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

HE WAS THE FIRST FROM THE B.S. Psychology department of De La Salle University to graduate magna cum laude and, sure enough, he received several scholarship offers from medical schools in the United States.

But 21-year-old Paolo Damandan is putting all that on hold until 2010 to concentrate on Gawad Kalinga (GK) projects for the poorest of the poor.

Since GK started in 1995, the program has evolved into a movement that builds integrated, holistic and sustainable communities in depressed areas. It has constructed more than 850 housing developments for free for more than 100,000 families in various regions.

Paolo wants to see GK's "777" (700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in seven years) to the finish line. "How can I dream for myself while the poor can't?" the young GK volunteer asks.

Paolo has not given up a medical school, and when he's done, he promises to come back to work for GKalusugan, GK's health program.

Fil-American Eleanor Chicheza, 29, a business management graduate of Rutgers University in New Jersey, is here to work for two years to coordinate Answering the Cry of the Poor

GK VOLUNTEERS/A7



MELOTO

Bro. Mike calls on GMA to show Cha-cha card

By Julie Lobog-Javellana

EL SHADDAI LEADER BRO. MIKE Velarde yesterday called on President Macapagal-Arroyo to declare her position on the people's initiative issue, and warned he would call out his millions of supporters to hold prayer rallies to block efforts to change the Constitution by that mode.

"I am vehemently opposed to the people's initiative," Velarde told the Inquirer, referring to efforts by officials and groups identified with Ms Arroyo to overhaul the Constitution using a signature campaign.

The leader of the Catholic

BRO. MIKE/A6

Second FRONTPAGE

Joc-joc sick; relatives seek help

FORMER AGRICULTURE UNDERSECRETARY Jocelyn "Joc-Joc" Bolante is reportedly ill, and his family and his lawyers have made separate requests for humanitarian assistance from the Philippine Embassy in Washington.

Comelec likely to junk initiative

PIATCO FIASCO

Gov't won't let go of Naia3

House OKs supplemental budget

Final Lafayette test run OKd

DepEd won't kick demoted Pluto out of textbooks yet

By Alcuin Papa

Loren making 'road show' of protest, Noli lawyers say

By Cynthia D. Balana

Isabela gov, PWU head to speak at Hawaii women's gab

The Daily Gospel

Puno denies he's seeking post as PM

Fr. Cortes, biblical scholar, dies; 64

Militant solon hits NPA for extortion

Military line

Party treasury

War without winners

Poor man's sugar



ROSALES

Palace asks hospitals to consider '06 nurses

Fund-raising campaign

Special budget from Congress

Review center as business

Unethical practices

Choose nursing schools

Passing grade of 48 percent

GK volunteers: Best for the least

One million heroes

First twin wins

850 GK communities

No turning back

Giving back



GMA execs snub probe of House allies

Witnesses

Case archived

Witness protection

Day of the Disappeared

Melo giving up 'sweet life' for 'last hurrah'

Avid golf player

40 years in gov't service

Bro. Mike calls on GMA to show Cha-cha card

En masse

4 reasons

A gov't initiative

'Signatures made in heaven'

By TJ Burgonio

Tanker captain admits work papers expired

Violation of safety code

Oil leaking before vessel sank

Life jackets

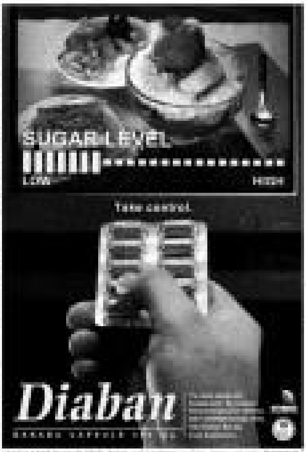
Committee members

It's Arroyos vs Cayetanos

Roadmap to 2030 launched

By Doris L. Luna

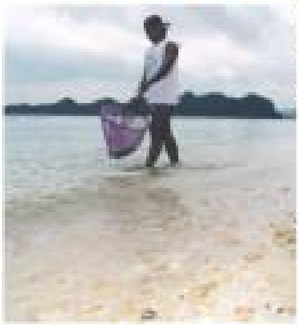




Palace asks GMA foes for civility while she's away



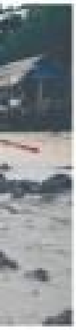


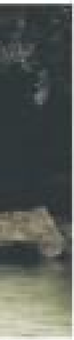






Guimaras folk evacuated from worst-hit areas





'Chicken feathers smell bad'

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

Oil spill darkens prospects for resorts in Guimaras

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Opinion

Circumscribed

EDITORIAL



Petron should be more forthright

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Out of the box

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Magsaysay—the giant shadow of the outsider

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Present!

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

A question of liability

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Inquisition

COMMENTARY

Must examinees take the heat for elders' fault?

LETTERS

Incredible claim of independence

No suspension order for Mamburao officials

Maintain ban on Pacific white shrimp



On the accident that killed news people in Pamplona

High power rates in Albay questioned

INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Ifugao rice festival to revive terraces

By Frank Cimatu
Kiangan, Ifugao

THIS RICE HARVEST festival is not bidding for any Guinness record. Rather, the Baldi-il Kiangan, held last week in Jalangan village in Kiangan, Ifugao, is a festival to revive the rice terraces and preserve the Ifugao culture that revolves around rice.

[illegible]

The pounding of the rice in the huge lo-ong (stone mortar) is an exercise in rhythm in itself. [illegible]

[illegible]

Former Ifugao Gov. Teodoro Baguilat Jr., who grew up in Kiangan's [illegible] village, said he wasn't aware of the baldi during his childhood.

"My grandmother would bring home the bludde and I wouldn't bother where it came from. Later, I learned that it came from a thanksgiving festival," he said.

"When I was in college, the baldi [festival] stopped," Baguilat, 40, said.

One reason is that some farmers have switched to lowland rice varieties that may give two croppings a year unlike the traditional varieties that are harvested once a year, he said.

Less profitable

Although less profitable, Baguilat said the use of the traditional rice varieties was crucial in the 12 rice rituals, starting from the [illegible] or the opening of the cropping cycle.

In the [illegible], held in December, bundles of rice are brought out of the granaries and blessed by the mumbaki (Ifugao priests). In July or August, the [illegible] harvest ritual has the mumbaki or the highest-ranking mumbaki [illegible].

Baguilat, during his term as governor, revived the rituals in Kiangan, but he admitted that it would take a lot of money to revive them.

Now that he is president of the [illegible] the Ifugao Rice Terraces Movement ([illegible]), he has embarked on community spirit and cultural tourism to finance the holding of the rituals.

Baguilat joined hands with Kiangan Mayor Albert Insloan and prominent residents in the area, like retired Col. Victor Baltazar, in holding the baldi.

He also brought in about 40 tourists from Baguio City and Metro Manila to join in the festivities. US Peace Corps volunteers gave the festival an international flavor.

Some of the tourists were either born in Kiangan or have parents born in Kiangan, but who have not witnessed a traditional rice festival.

During the festival, mumbaki [illegible] and Francisco Tagtuey called on the gods for blessing as some residents beat the gongs and danced around the village hall.

"We plan to hold the other rice rituals in other places like Hapao or Banaue towns and also bring in tourists who want to know more about the Ifugao culture," Baguilat said.



THE BUL-UL (Ifugao rice granary guardian) takes center stage during the baldi or rice harvest festival in Kiangan, Ifugao, as native priests ask their gods to bless the festivities and the community. [illegible]



IFUGAO women winnow traditional rice used in the production of Kiangan's native rice cakes.

‘Commission’ racket at BCDA bared

Authority director denies allegation

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—A GROUP OF contractors claimed a Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) official had required them to pay between P1 million and P5 million each but had failed to secure for them subcontracts in the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway Project.

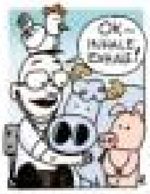
Politicians' endorsement

Higher fees



DIRECT HIT

Vets rescue of animals distressed by Mayon



Army, NPA clash, break ceasefire around Mayon

Top N. Vizcaya cops relieved over ‘jueteng’

MILF rebels free 18 hostages

MIDSAYAP, NORTH COTABATO—Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels agreed late Monday to free the 18 people they took as hostages during an attack on a predominantly Ilonggo village here earlier that day, the military said yesterday.

Army Col. Danilo Garcia, [illegible] Infantry Brigade chief, said the hostages, who were erroneously reported earlier as numbering five, were not harmed.

"But obviously they suffered psychological and emotional stress," he said.

Garcia said the rebels agreed to release the hostages after they got the body of a comrade who was killed in the clash with soldiers.

Two civilians were wounded by stray bullets when militiamen battled about 50 rebels who stormed the village of [illegible] at around 5 a.m.

[illegible], 58, one of the hostages, said the bandits that the rebels had threatened to shoot them.

"We were told that we were being used against pursuing militiamen," she said.

"They promised to free us once they retrieved their slain companion," she added.

[illegible], 56, another freed hostage, described the attackers as "not regular rebels."

He said on Monday that the rebels, led by a Commander Badz, were looking for a Commander Bob, a rebel who has become a militiaman in the village.

He said the MILF rebels and commander Bob had been feuding.

Shortly after the rebels arrived, [illegible] said Commander Bob's men engaged them in a gunfight.

Garcia said government troops arrived and joined the militiamen in repulsing the attackers.

"As the group of Commander Badz were fleeing, they took 18 people, mostly Ilonggos and Christian farmers, and used them as human shields against pursuing government troops," he said.

Garcia said that after freeing the hostages, the rebels retreated to Barangay [illegible] but they were driven away by soldiers of the [illegible] Infantry Battalion under Capt. [illegible] at about 6 p.m.

[illegible] Mayor [illegible] said he had sent emissaries to convince the warring parties to amicably settle their differences. *[illegible], Inquirer Mindanao*

NEWS

Peso nears P50-level



Erap docu rated X

G for suitable



A plus METRO
Editor: Ester G. Dipasupil
Text us your feedback: inquirer metro (your message) to 2237 (Globe) or 700 (Smart) E-mail: ip_metro@inquirer.com.ph



6 Pasay policemen face kidnap raps

NBI rescues victim at drug rehab center in Tagaytay

By Tina G. Santos

TEN PEOPLE, INCLUDING SIX PASAY CITY policemen, are facing charges for allegedly kidnapping a businessman in Pasay City early this month.

Lawyer Oscar Embido of the NBI Anti-Organized Crime Division said agents rescued the victim—Bicky Bula, 56, owner of Handwill Restaurant located on Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasay City—from Gandenzia Homes Foundation Inc., a private drug rehabilitation center in Barangay Maitim II, Tagaytay City, last week.

Charges of kidnapping with serious illegal detention are being readied against Chief Insp. Abel Dumagu and five other still unidentified members of the Pasay Police.

Also facing charges are Claire Angeles, owner of the rehabilitation center and the victim's three siblings who allegedly masterminded the abduction, Embido told reporters.

Witnesses

An investigation showed that the six policemen forcibly dragged Bula into an L300 van last Aug. 7. The incident was witnessed by one of the victim's employees, according to the NBI.

Two days later, the victim's eldest sister decided to seek the help of the NBI after learning that Bula had been taken to the rehabilitation center for alleged drug abuse.

Bula later told authorities that during his confinement at the center, he learned that three of his siblings were behind his kidnapping because they wanted to take over his restaurant. Angeles, on the other hand, claimed that the victim was turned over to him by the Pasay City Police for being a drug dependent, but he failed to show documents to justify the victim's confinement at his rehabilitation center.

Court order

"The victim cannot be confined in a rehabilitation center against his will. There should at least be a court order," Embido explained, adding that they learned that the center was paid P35,000 for Bula's stay.

It was also gathered that Gandenzia Homes Foundation Inc. had not been accredited as a drug rehabilitation facility by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.



Thumbs down for Wack Wack billboard

DID YOU KNOW



MIXED REACTIONS

No treats await this Dutchman

METROBRIEFS

Binay dares Gonzalez

Transport leader buried

Book fair opens tomorrow

DNA tests prompt dropping of charges in Ramsey case

Iran dismisses US threat of sanctions coalition

WorldBriefs

Minibus plunges in India

Sharon's condition improves

Shiite militia, troops clash

The WORLD

Israel probes conduct of Lebanon war

HAIFA, ISRAEL—ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER Ehud Olmert on Monday ordered a government inquiry into the conduct of Lebanon war, for the first time admitting failures during the month-long offensive on Hezbollah.



OLMERT

Safety device may have prevented Kentucky crash

Mexican court junks fraud claims

Austrian teen describes years of captivity



WHAT'S INSIDE

Spain rips Lithuania, books semifinal spot /A24

SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic S. Melendres

Agassi hangs on, outlasts Romanian foe /A25

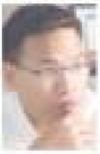


RP five in limbo despite unity pact

Key Fiba group nixes immediate lifting of ban

THE NATIONAL TEAM TASKED to regain Asian basketball glory has ceased preparations pending the final resolution on the Philippines' suspension from Fiba-sanctioned international tournaments.





Unification in 30 days

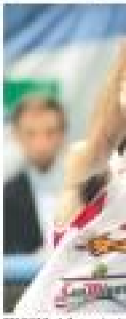
Where was Solar when Bata/Django won?

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



Cards have revenge in mind as they battle red-hot Lions



Rookie Tan rules Quick 8 drag race



HOUSTON Rockets superstar Tracy McGrady shoots hoops with eyes closed during an Adidas-organized meet-and-greet event for local NBA fans.

Spain r… faces Ar…

AMA gets back at STI

SPORTSWATCH

115 fights today in 'Rambulan' derby



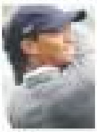
Agassi hangs on

Outlasts Romanian foe to stretch final tournament another day



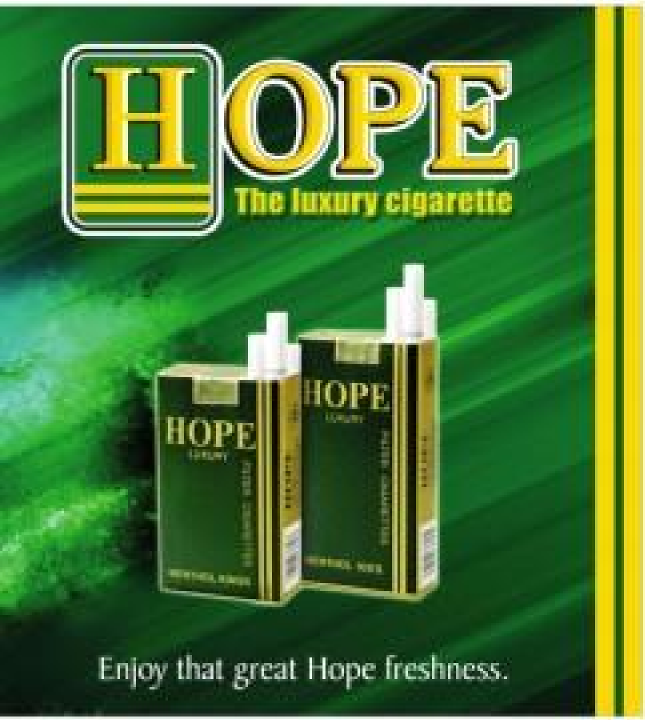


ips Lithuania, rgentina next



Lehman: US Ryder Cup players upbeat

WOODS



No light at tunnel's end

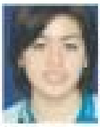
In Huddle



Beth Celis

SPORTS

RP jins vying in 2 tough Korea tilts


RIVERO

La Salle, Ateneo head Samsung schools golf cast

INQUIRER TV GUIDE Wednesday, August 30, 2006

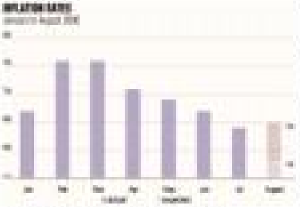
TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Business

SM group offers P92/share for EPCIBank

Tender offer can cost P36.9B

THE SM GROUP OF MALL TYCOON HENRY SY HAS made an offer to buy out other shareholders in Equitable PCIBank at P92 a share or about P36.9 billion for all the bank's stocks outside of the retail-based conglomerate's holdings.



August inflation seen at 5.8-6.5%

RP firms eye Middle East deals

IN THIS ISSUE

Currencies



Stock Market

Shares close higher on bargain-hunting



Partners abandon Roco law firm

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

Palace seen issuing clarification on EO 556

PNOC may hold new round of talks on Malampaya oil project

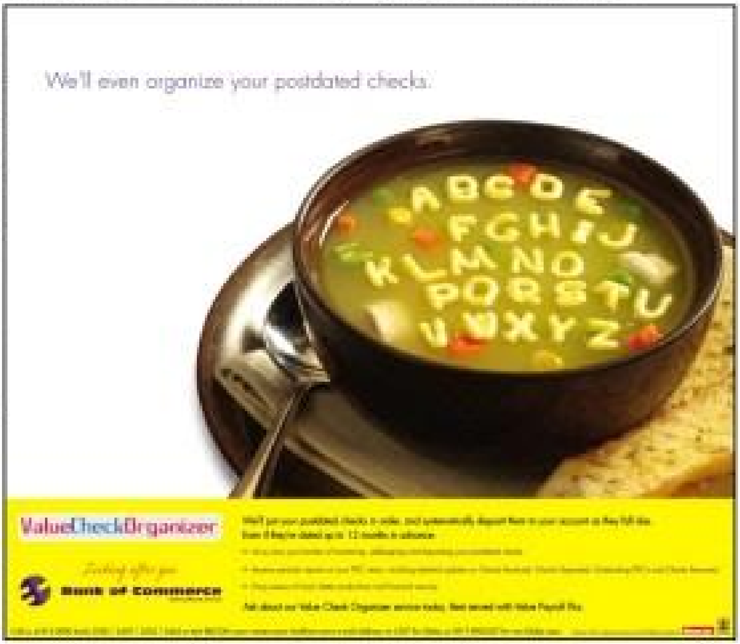
By Abigail L. Ho

SM group offers . . .

Court-appointed receiver hopeful on CAP rehab prospects

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

[illegible]





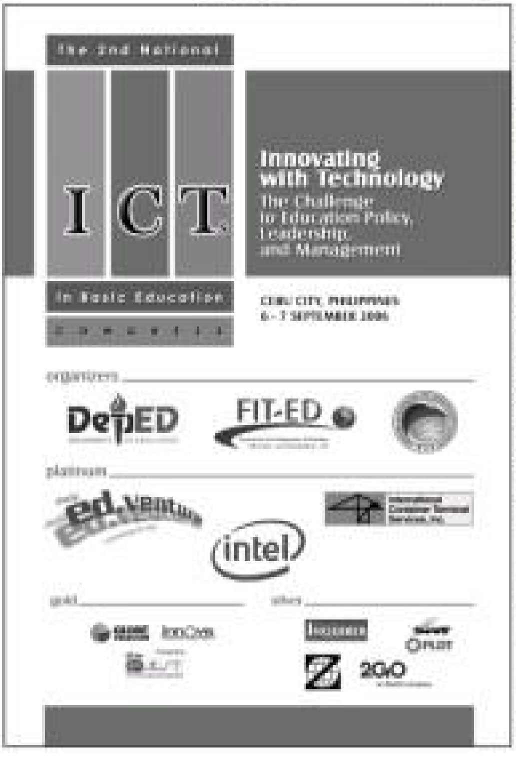
Hospital to consider 'alternative' medicine

SEC approves reduction in Metro Pacific capital

Corporate restructuring underway

Russian terminal operator to take pointers from ICTSI

Disclosures





Metrobank moves to boost cash transfer operations

Partnerships formed to reach out to Filipinos overseas

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]

IPVG posts ₱32-M loss

By Riza T. Olchondra

[illegible]

CEB starts flying to GenSan

[illegible]

RP firms eye Middle East deals

From page B4

[illegible]

6th SM Bowling Cup opens

[illegible]



[illegible]

Another win against hypertension

[illegible]



CELEBRITY CLUB LADIES' DOUBLES TENNIS TEAM

[illegible]

Wonder of a miracle bed

[illegible]

Regions of the Phils. DVDs on Sale at the Book Fair



VIBAL PUBLISHING [illegible]

Pinoy Superheroes Now in Coloring Books

[illegible]



messages



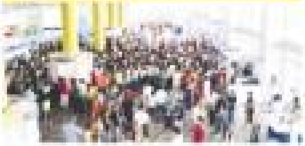
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President
Republic of the Philippines

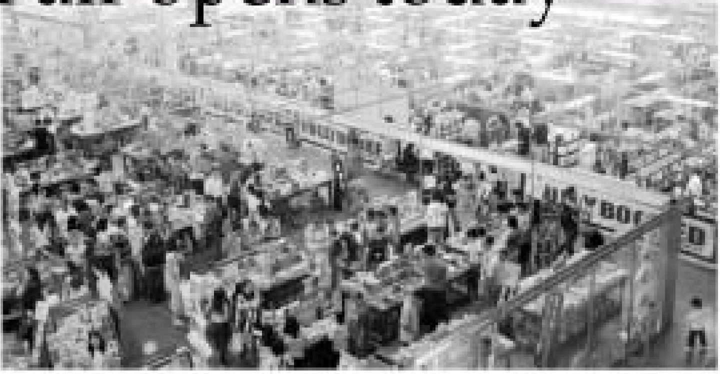


[illegible]

Vice President
Republic of the Philippines



27th Manila International Book Fair opens today



The biggest names in the publishing industry are set to gather anew for the 27th Manila International Book Fair (MIBF), the country's paramount event for the book business. The MIBF celebrates the ... at the World Trade Center Metro Manila, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue corner Roxas Boulevard, from Aug. 30 to Sept. 3.

With the theme 'Make it a Habit' the MIBF once again unites local and foreign publishers, wholesalers, retailers, book lovers and collectors, librarians, authors



MOTORING



The 'highs' and 'lows' of budget cars

By Tessa R. Salazar

LAST WEEK Inquirer Motoring began its head-to-head comparison among three of the most conspicuous budget cars available in the country today—the Hyundai Getz 1.1, Kia Picanto 1.1 and Chevy Spark 1.0. All priced below P500,000, the cars were test-driven and scrutinized in an attempt to reveal the estimated cost of running and maintaining these so-called "budget cars."

Frequently changed spare parts

	Spark 1.0	Getz 1.1	Picanto 1.1
Oil filter	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fuel filter	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Air filter	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Spark plugs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brake pads front	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alternator belt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Power steering belt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clutch disc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pressure plate	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Release bearing	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wiper blades	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wiper blade	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Spare parts warranty	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vehicle warranty	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



PICANTO'S trunk space



GETZ'S trunk space



Spark's trunk space

'Butt' test

Initial impressions

Fuel capacity/drive

Clutch play

A tale of 2 sedans

Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

WITH THE 2007 MITSUBISHI Lancer 2.0 GT, one doesn't have to spend a lot to enjoy impressive handling and road-holding properties.

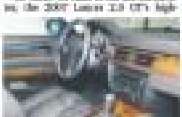


Impressive

More than just cosmetics



THE PULL of the BMW badge is enough for some people to stretch their budget.



THE BMW interior screams refinement and good taste.

Don't be fooled

Silken fluidity

ID sensor

Ethanol and mileage



ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla Mendoza

[illegible]

Price gap

[illegible]

Disadvantages

[illegible]

Missed point

[illegible]

Long term

[illegible]



[illegible]

Moments of fluid force



MY DRIFT

Andre Palma

[illegible]

Assessing a product



[illegible]

3 world's firsts

[illegible]

Helpful hints on lighting

[illegible]

MOTORSCOPE

Ford Focus unleashes the Flex-Fuel Vehicle Road Challenge

[illegible]

Racing party showcases McLaren Mercedes MP4-20

[illegible]

AAP Road Safety Call Center to be launched tomorrow

[illegible]

Business

Japan trade sentiment on RP continues to go up

Rising demand for semiconductors helped in pushing up indices

Shipowners balk at double cost for double hull tankers



FARMERS in Bukidnon turn to bananas after experiencing losses in rice and corn crops.

Banana exports up 15% in first half

By Christine A. Gaylican



RP, China, Malaysia firms start survey in Calamian

By Abigail L. Ho

LifeStyle

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor



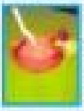


Rainy Boracay

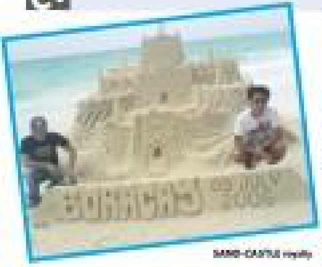




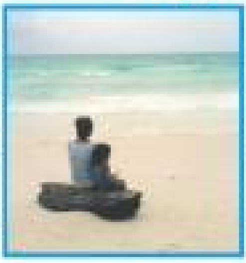




Now that it's 'kapote' season, Boracay is probably the last destination on your mind.
But we're here to tell you that you can still enjoy one of our favorite islands even if the sun refuses to shine.
How to get there, where to stay, what to eat and what to do—we've got them all covered in 2bU!'s rainy Boracay guide.
And because we love the beach, we also have a guide on what we can all do to help save Guimaras from that nasty oil spill.
Sand, surf, storm and saving the environment. It's this week's formula for having fun and changing the world.

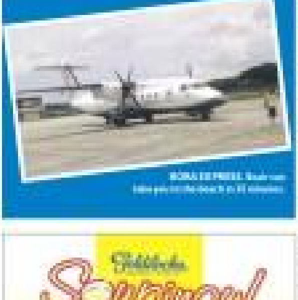


Boracay, when i



Bora in a jiffy

> Seair's 35-minute flying time to Caticlan is the fastest way to get to Boracay these days









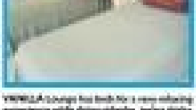




Pacific pleasures

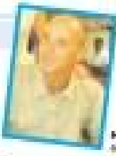


> There are so many things you can do in Patio Pacific, especially during the rainy season when one can't bake under the sun or brave the dangerous waves



t drizzles

At this time of year, the mild sun and the formidable winds make the island's gleaming shores perfect for extreme water sports









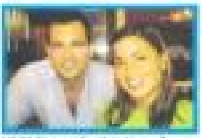
ZUZUNI restaurant has bold red walls and several mirrors in crafted frames.



[illegible] view from the Zuzuni balcony



ZUZUNI'S Moutzalia is one of the best sellers.



MIKOS Ghizis and Goni Pelealis own Zuzuni together with Goni's cousin Yorgos.

The Greek good life in Boracay

Zuzuni offers endearing food and accommodations



SAGANAKI, fried cheese with zesty lemon for extra flavor

By [illegible]
Correspondent

ZUZUNI IN GREEK means little insect. But don't expect Zuzuni, the resto-resort owned by Filipino-Greek Goni Pelealis, her cousin Yorgos Pelealis and their friend Greek-American Mikos Ghizis, to have insects inside the rooms or, much worse, in their food!

Zuzuni is also a term of endearment for family, friends and pets. With Zuzuni's yummy food and cozy rooms, one will indeed be bewitched by the place.

According to Goni, the design of the rooms really didn't have a motif. She said they had in mind their friends and family while planning the place together with designer Miguel Rosales.

"We wanted a place that we could imagine our friends and people we know, including ourselves, feeling comfortable staying and hanging out in, eating and drinking at every day," she said.

"We wanted it warm, simple, comfortable, luxurious but not pretentious, cozy and inviting."

These are the same adjectives that will pop into your head when you look at the rooms. With tropical and minimalist décor, a brown and cream color scheme plus peaceful lighting on the ceiling and mood lights, Zuzuni's rooms are simple yet so [illegible], chic yet [illegible].

And since Zuzuni has only four rooms, the service is very personalized, very boutique-hotel style. "You feel as if you're a guest in someone's home—not just another guest at a big resort," Goni says. "Our staff is also wonderful, very warm, competent, friendly and accommodating."

The big plus is that downstairs, there's food to order [illegible] part of the day.

Since Goni, Yorgos and Mikos are part Greek, authentic Greek cuisine is served at the restaurant that can seat 40 inside and accommodate 50 outside.

"Typical Greek/Mediterranean food is quite varied," Goni explains. "But in general, it is quite healthy and uses a lot of olive oil, which everyone knows has countless health benefits."

"Greek food is also simple, so you really get to taste and appreciate all of the ingredients that go into any given dish," Goni adds.

"There aren't heavy sauces covering up the fresh tomato or the fresh fish, for example, so you can really taste the lemon, oregano, fish or whatever it is that makes up the dish."

Of the house specialties and best sellers, I loved the Moutzalia consisting of tomatoes and eggplants topped with parmesan shavings, sun-dried tomato and a tangy, zesty balsamic vinaigrette. My tasty buds also enjoyed the Moussaka and Zuzuni Flatbread with generous amounts of bacon, tomato and cream cheese inside.

And then there are the desserts! Their [illegible] for Granny is subtle but satisfying while their Chocolate Bliss—a dome of warm chocolate goodness with a scoop of ice cream—is so sinful that you need to do the sign of the cross after every spoonful.

The best thing about the cuisine is that it is authentic Greek/Mediterranean food, with ingredients imported from Greece.

Accepted very well by both Filipinos and foreigners, Zuzuni's eats are a major must-try for any food lover. And after your first try, you'll definitely want to come back for more—especially the Chocolate Bliss. Trust me. That's exactly what I did.

Zuzuni's room rates are [illegible] per night for the two breakfast rooms and [illegible] for the larger rooms. To book at Zuzuni, call [illegible].



BATHROOMS are either in beige or blue, but all of them are sparkling clean and smells homey.





ZUZUNI'S rooms are simple yet sophisticated, comfy yet chic.

LIFESTYLE







PAVILION, by night

Sun, sand and flavors

Text and photos by Arlene M. Paredes
2K5 Correspondent

Patio Pacific's healthy, scrumptious and detoxifying Chinese cuisine is a must-try in Boracay

IN BORACAY, YOU GIVE ALL your senses a real treat. Your eyes feast on the colors of ultimate tropical beauty that is your holiday. Your nose inhales unpolluted paradise air. Your skin either basks in the warm sunlight during summer or enjoys the cool drizzle during rainy days. Your ears enjoy the music of the tropics, away from the crazy hustle and bustle of the city.

And your taste buds celebrate luscious organic flavors devoid of toxic artificial ingredients.

Sojourn 2K5 dined in Garden Café in Patio Pacific to sample its healthy, scrumptious and detoxifying Chinese cuisine.

Among the soups I sampled, the delicious Egg Drop Soup and nutritious Tomato Soup were my favorites. Garden Café's Tomato Soup was so flavorful that it left a tinge of pepper and spices in my mouth as I waited for the appetizer and main course.

For appetizer, nothing beats Patio Pacific's Ocean Splash Garden Salad with special vinaigrette dressing. The mere act of gently pouring the vinaigrette on this generous splash of fresh crisp lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes and onions with slices of boiled egg and chunks of tuna



Bling on the water

By Ryan R. Reyes

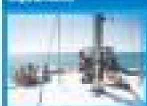
WITH OUR west-and-windy Boracay takeover on a powerful roll, it's only fitting that we try on the biggest and baddest bling the island par-adise has—the luxury sailcraft M/S Vianelle.

The 12-foot yacht, which is proudly Pinoy in concept and design, is actually a throwback to the Boracay's single-vinted...

[illegible]



LIQUID ...



My Bora climbing ex[perience]

Text by Arleen M. Paredes
Photos by Mark Sabio
2bU! Correspondent

IF YOU SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS out there ever decide to fly to Boracay during the rainy season, remember you may miss doing some water sports, but you can still flex your muscles right in the comfort of Paras Pacific, the only resort with wall-climbing facility that is perfect for fun-filled *barkada* sports.

[illegible]

Legwork

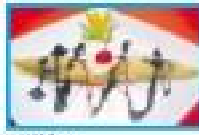
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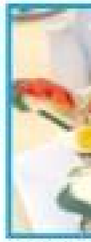
WASABE Tuna Steak



MIGNON de Porc All ...



MANGO Crepe



OCEAN Splash ...



YOGA Chicken Skewers



EGG Drop Soup

Sun, sand and flavors

From page B1

[illegible]

Surf, sounds and phones

Sony Ericsson equipped the 2bU! correspondents with phones during their stay in rainy Boracay. They fell in love with the island—and with the gadgets they reviewed

Cool cat: Sony Ericsson W550i

By Ryan R. Reyes
2bU! Correspondent

WHEN THE EVER innovative Sony Ericsson decided to license the "Walkman" name from Sony Corp., it was a clear sign that mobile technology is heading towards uptoll. ...

[illegible]

Walk this way

[illegible]

Clicking

[illegible]



W300i for the young music lover

By Arleen M. Paredes
2bU! Correspondent

I'M PRETTY SMALL BUT I'VE got everything you need." ...

[illegible]

W810i: Phone, camera and mp3 player in one

By Mike Mark M. Sabio
2bU! Correspondent

[illegible]



...perience

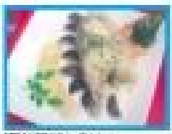




Bell

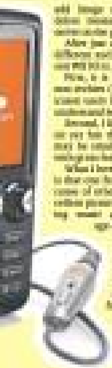
Pampering

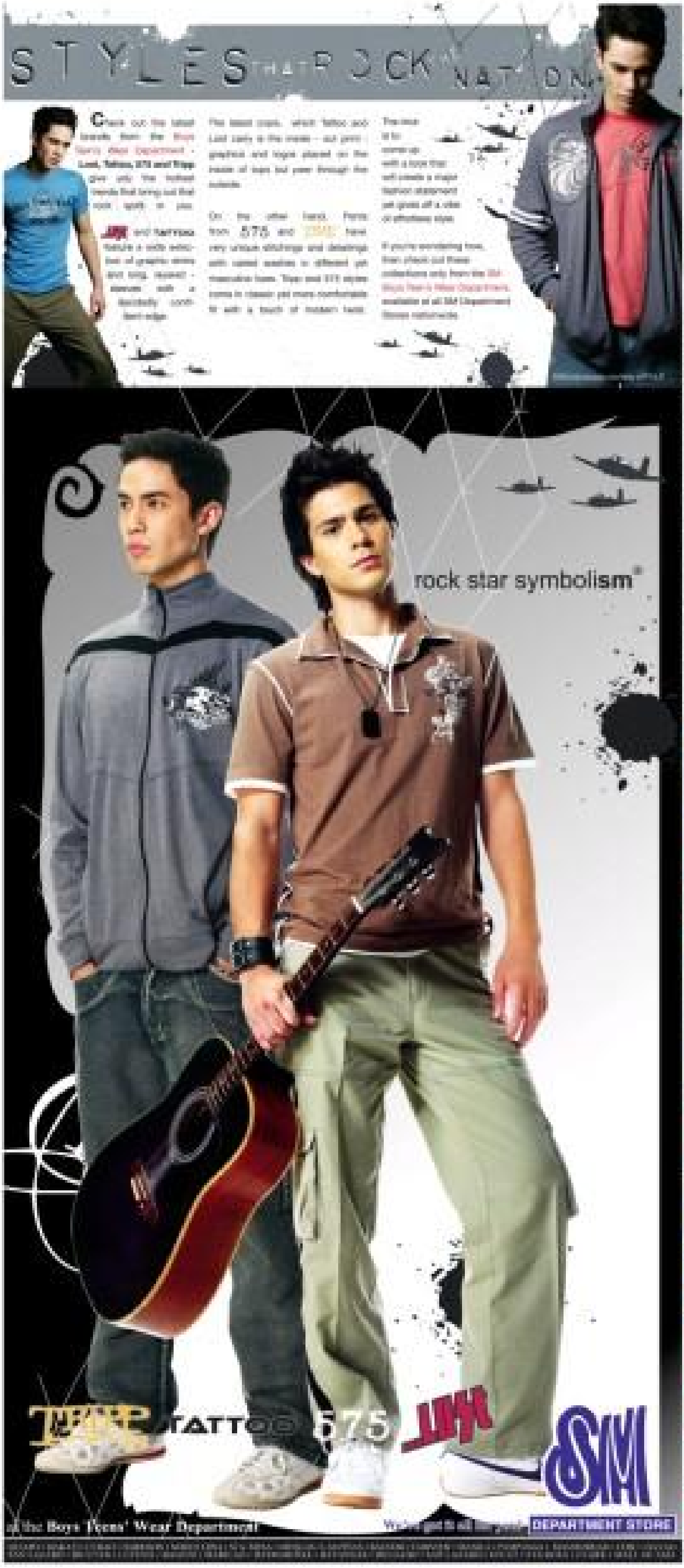




STEAMED White Chicken







What makes you a rock star?

MORE AND MORE 2BU1 READERS are getting in on the "Rockstar Superpower" craze!

[illegible]

"Rock Star: Supernova" airs live, exclusively on Star World every Wednesday (8:30 a.m.) and Thursdays (8 a.m.), with [illegible]

Here are last week's winners who gave us reasons why they think they rock!

• Sam Santos (Quez. Aug. 25 '86; Place: [illegible] High School music room; Gig: Music project [illegible])

"Life rocks because of friends who stick it out with me in good and bad times. [illegible]"

• Barrett "Spic" [illegible] (This is my boyfriend, Troy. [illegible])

"[illegible]"

• Lourdes "Bing" de la Cruz (Date: August 2005; Place: [illegible], Los Baños, Laguna; Gig: Band: The Norms [illegible])

"[illegible]"

Winners can claim their prizes by calling [illegible]





BING de la Cruz and The Norms







SAM Santos and his music project

LIFESTYLE

SOS Guimaras

By Pam Pastor

Don't cry over spilled oil—do something about it



WHEN GUIMARAS became a province in 1992, it was called "The Island to Watch" because of so much promise that its resources bring. Aside from mango, its signature crop, it has long stretches of white-sand beaches, remarkable dive spots and rich fishing grounds. These resources brought the best out of Guimaras, and took it out of the list of 20 poorest provinces in the Philippines.

"However, disaster struck. On 11 August 2006, the tanker MT Solar 1, which was carrying two million liters of bunker fuel, sank off the southern coast while battling rough waves. Several hours later, our long stretches of white-sand beaches, remarkable dive spots and rich fishing grounds became despicable sights with black thick oil covering them.

"It's an 8/11 tragedy for yet Guimaras remained 'The Island to Watch' but this time, it is a death watch. The sinking of the tanker gave a blow of death to us, hitting us where it hurts most.

"Yet, as we lose grasp for air to survive the catastrophe, the source of the blow is just as now ... which knows when."

This is the message of JC Rahman Nava M.D., the governor of Guimaras, found on the website, projectsunrise.org.

The oil spill off Guimaras province, considered the worst oil spill in the Philippines, has wreaked havoc on the environment. The Greenpeace, the Coast Guard and other groups and individuals are working hard on cleanup efforts while the rest of the country can't stop talking about it.

But we can do more than just talk—we can make a difference in concrete ways.

Get a haircut. There's no better reason to change your hairstyle than this. After learning from Greenpeace that human hair can be used in the cleanup efforts, hair salons—members of the Philippine Association of Hairdressers—have started collecting hair. If you want to donate hair, visit any branch, your favorite salon or call [illegible].

Support the Visayan Sea Squadron. Headed by lawyer Antonio Oposa Jr., who specializes in environmental law, this organization started volunteer work to help and fishermen and residents who have been badly affected. [illegible] who all come from Iloilo, are helping the Visayan Sea Squadron by collecting donations and sending them to the affected area.

"As I type, the oil spillage slowly encompasses the areas around Guimaras Island and is now moving up toward the north through Guimaras Strait, damaging Panay and Negros in its wake," said [illegible] in an e-mail message.

"Families dependent on their fishing livelihood are robbed of their means of living. The rich seafood is contaminated, and we are slowly but surely being killed by health problems resulting from this terrible environmental disaster.

"The volunteers and fisherfolk are working to clean up the damage, with no thought of their health. They go through the muck in sandals and slippers, with not even a mask to protect their lungs."

You may help them by donating fishing rubber boots, rubber gloves and masks. They also accept donations of hair and chicken feathers to create booms needed to mop up the oil.

The first shipment of donations will be sent today while the next one is scheduled on Sept. 5. If you are in the Quezon City area, donations may be sent to 11 Highland Drive, Blueridge A/Sinagtala, Quezon City.

You can also drop off donations at the College of Fine Arts in UP-Diliman, Q.C.—just look for [illegible].

If you'd rather donate cash, the Visayan Sea Squad can purchase much needed materials and place the donation under your name. For more information, call Archie at [illegible], Jonnie at [illegible] and [illegible] or e-mail [illegible]spill@gmail.com.

Visit projectsunrise.org, a website created as a response to the oil spill disaster. The site lists other ways you can help—by making a deposit or a check donation (pledge and donation forms may be downloaded from the website), providing tools and equipment for the cleanup, helping restore people's livelihoods and more.

You may also donate relief goods like rice, sardines, noodles, water and medicines to the [illegible] coastal families that have been directly affected by the spill. Visit Projectsunrise.org, e-mail [illegible] or call [illegible].

Hint your blog readers. Help spread awareness by blogging about the oil spill and what we can all do to help. There is power in numbers.



Photo me!

Text by Bianca Consunji
2BU Correspondent
Photos by Ocs Alvarez

THERE'S DEFINITELY more to graduation photos than putting on a toga and smiling for the camera. Since the photos are meant to be displayed prominently in living rooms to show off to guests, and yearbooks become valuable background material after a few years (one day, if you become rich and famous, some enterprising blurb-writer will inevitably publish your yearbook photo in glossy tabloids—including big hair, bad write-up and braces!), it's a good idea to put more thought into your graduation photos.

Nowadays, the yearbook pages contain more than just a simple black and white photo and write-up. Creative shots, formal photos and costumes have been added to the mix as well. This development allows more room for the graduate to express his or her personality through the pages, but only if done correctly; otherwise, all the choices can lead to confusion and half-baked photos.

Don't know what to do with your graduation photos yet? Check out 2BU's guide to good graduation photos, and get started on planning your picture perfect moment.

Toga

Do:





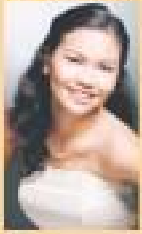
AIM to look clean-cut and fresh for your graduation photo.



DON'T use disco-type shadows and orange blush.

Don'ts:

Formal





FIND your best angle before your shoot.

Do:

Don'ts:

Creative shot





Do:

Don'ts:



EXPERIMENT with new looks.



AVOID overkill.

Makeup for guys



PAINT on some lipstick to imitate Superman.





PINK blush and lipstick are a no-no for men.

Young and hypertensive

Her BP would shoot up to abnormal levels. And she's just in her 20s



FOXTROT — BY BILL AMEND



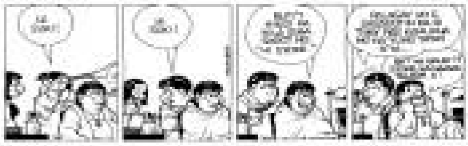
A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA



BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



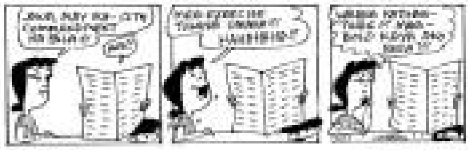
PUGAD BABOY — BY P.M. JUNIOR



MUTTS — BY PATRICK McDONNELL



LOVEKNOTS — BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



ATOMO AND WEBBY — BY LYRA GARCELLANO

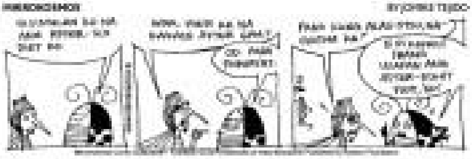


DIVINE COMEDY



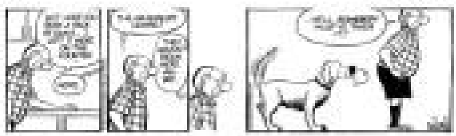
BIKO MACHINE — BY MANIX ABRERA



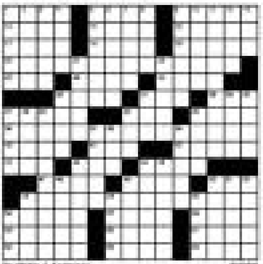


TULDOK





DAILY CROSSWORD



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

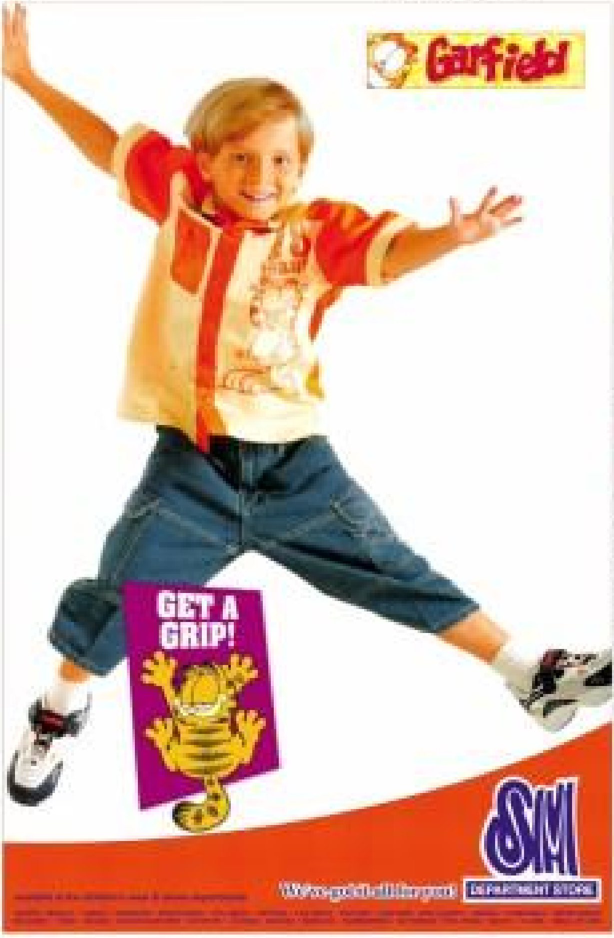
Conceptis Sudoku — by Dave Green

				5	8	1		
	3						2	
4		8				7		
2				8				
8			9	4	5			2
				1				8
		6				3		4
	7						5	
		5	7	9				

Difficulty Level ★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle





Celebrating sisterhood

Vert and Cleansol offer beauty products that are essential to young girls' lives

By Zoe Castro

TO CELEBRATE SISTER'S DAY, VERT and Cleansol recently hosted a bonding event at Oakwood Premiere.

[illegible]









Entertainment



FROM "Doodle of Doom"

RP entry to int'l animation tilt

PDI contributor and buddy, both art students, compete with established pros

RP entry to int'l…

(From page F1)

Choice Award, Student Award, [illegible] Award and Viewer's Choice Award.

Already a winner

Nelson "Bing" Caligagan Jr., 23, is a multimedia arts student at the College of St. Benilde. He is the creator of "[illegible] Manila," which comes out weekly in the Inquirer's Comics section. [illegible]

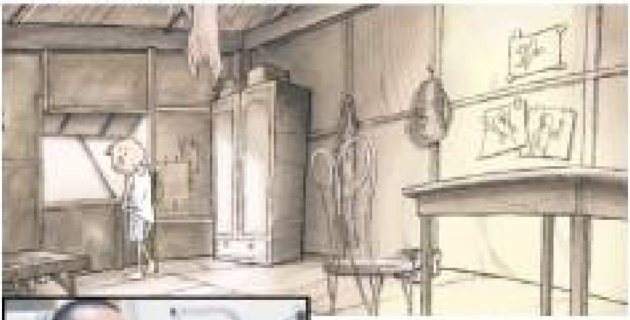
Caligagan said "Doodle of Doom" was initially made as an entry to two local contests—the 4th Animasyon Shorts competition and The Graphic Expo. It won the grand prize [illegible] in both contests.

"It was just a school project," Caligagan told Inquirer Entertainment on Saturday. "Our instructors [illegible] us from other school work just so we could concentrate on it. They said it had been four years since the school won any animation award [illegible]."

When Caligagan's mentor, [illegible], told him about the Nickelodeon contest, the young artist was hesitant. "It's an international contest. We really didn't think our work stood a chance," he pointed out.

He added that the other finalists are already professionals—art directors and animation directors in their respective countries.

"[illegible]," said [illegible], who is the managing director of Anthem Asia [illegible], an [illegible] animation training and service provider. "I think Bing and [illegible] work was chosen because it's a novelty. It really looks like something from a Third World country, forcing people living in [illegible] to [illegible] Filipinos, but not to [illegible]. Most of the other entries are comedy films."





ANOTHER scene from "Doodle." At left is Bing Caligagan.

The Caligagans said they didn't expect "Doodle of Doom" to win the top Nickelodeon prize, and that they considered being part of the competition prestige enough.

But there's another prize that Caligagan and [illegible] could bring home—the Viewer's Choice Award, whose winner will be announced on Sept. 28. Viewers could vote online until Sept. 15. The finalists are already being aired on Nickelodeon.

Animation forum

Meanwhile, Anthem Asia hosted an animation forum held last week with Pixar Animation Studio's Ronnie del Carmen as main speaker.

Del Carmen, a Filipino, worked on the hit animation film "Finding Nemo" as head of story. Prior to joining Pixar, he worked at DreamWorks and Warner Bros.

[illegible] said, "What we got out of the forum was a commitment from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Film Development Council (FDCP) to come up with something concrete and tangible for the animation industry. This will, [illegible] be to set up an agency for local animators, or a fund for grants."

Panelists at the forum were Christian [illegible], chair of the Cinema Evaluation Board and [illegible] chair of FDCP; [illegible], filmmaker; [illegible], United Pictures producer; [illegible] del [illegible], filmmaker and head of the National Committee on Cinema of the NCCA; [illegible] Aguilar, founder of the Cinemanila International Film Festival; [illegible], NCCA chair; and [illegible], GMA Network's [illegible] officer.

"It's good that we're now discussing the state of the animation industry here," said [illegible]. "[illegible] Hollywood production [illegible] has announced that it has a film fund that can be made available to local filmmakers. This could also [benefit] the animation industry. Not all films are like [illegible], there could be opportunities for animators, too."

[illegible] recently announced it was willing to finance or coproduce a movie "with a Filipino concept and an English script" for as much as $1.5 million. The [illegible]-based Hollywood production company is working with the FDCP on the project.

Opening Today

You Are the One



Jupit

The Devil Wears Prada



Stay Alive

The Lost City

Hopefully, not Bamboo clones

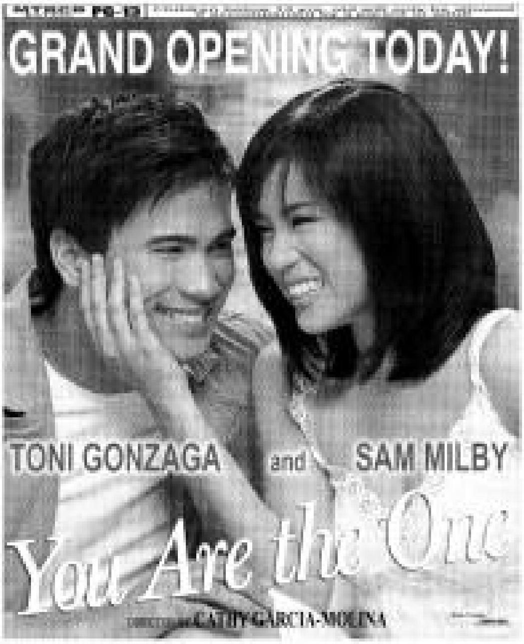
Visually engaging

Rock icon









OVERHEARD THIS WEEK

From Emmy Awards



JEREMY Piven with ...

POSES at the 58th annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

"It's the only straight man to bring his mother two years in a row" — "Entourage" actor and Best Supporting Actor (Comedy) winner Jeremy Piven.



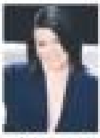
CONAN O'Brien

"Alec Baldwin has a new show on NBC, James Woods has a new show on CBS and Mel Gibson has a new show on Al-Jazeera." — Host Conan O'Brien during the opening monologue.



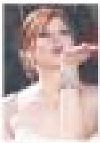
BLYTHE Danner

"I guess I have to thank Showtime even though they have canceled us." — Blythe Danner, Best Supporting Actress (Drama) for "Huff."



MEGAN Mullally

"We had eight great years of happy employment and that's more than most people can ever hope for." — "Will & Grace" star Megan Mullally, Best Supporting Actress (Comedy).



DEBRA Messing

"I'm strangely upset." — Debra Messing about the end of "Will & Grace."

"There is nothing I would rather do than watch this person." — Warren Beatty about his wife, Annette Bening.

"The Bush administration just keeps making it to the bubble zone." — Conan O'Brien, on the IRS taxing these gift baskets.

SM Cinema — movietime SHOWTIME

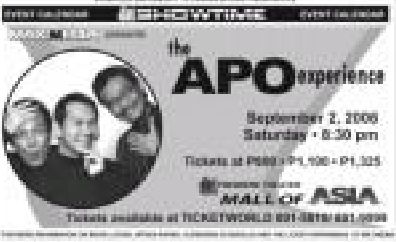
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GALLERIA

1 CLICK • THX	6 SCOOP
2 YOU ARE THE ONE	7 MORTUARY
3 SNAKES ON THE PLANE	8 STAY ALIVE
4 LITTLE MAN	9 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
5 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA	10 THE BIG WHITE

ERMITA

1 YOU ARE THE ONE	
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	5 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
3 STAY ALIVE	6 SNAKES ON A PLANE
4 SCOOP	7 LITTLE MAN

METRO EAST

1 YOU ARE THE ONE	5 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
2 CLICK	6 LITTLE MAN
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND	7 SNAKES ON A PLANE
4 SCOOP	8 SUKOB

NOVALICHES

1 YOU ARE THE ONE	3 SNAKES ON A PLANE
2 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA	4 LITTLE MAN

CITISQUARE MALABON

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
3 SNAKES ON A PLANE
4 LITTLE MAN

CHECK THIS OUT ►►►►



STA. ROSA

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 THE BREAK-UP
3 MORTUARY
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND

LIPA

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 STORMBREAKER
3 MORTUARY
4 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND

DASMARIÑAS

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MORTUARY
3 LITTLE MAN
4 THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2

ANGELES

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 STORMBREAKER
3 AMERICAN DREAMZ
4 TAMARA

IMUS

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
3 MORTUARY
4 LITTLE MAN

STARMILLS

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 PIERCED PEOPLE
3 MIAMI VICE
4 MORTUARY
5 LITTLE MAN
6 YOU ARE THE MAN

BACOLOD

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MIAMI VICE
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
4 PIERCED PEOPLE
5 LITTLE MAN
6 CLICK

ILOILO

1 YOU ARE THE ONE
2 MIAMI VICE
3 MY SUPER EX-GIRLFRIEND
4 LITTLE MAN



Hopefully, not Bamboo clones

Review







